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Dated January 4, 2005

Signature: 

(Kevin J. Canning)

Docket No.: SYCS-005  
(PATENT)**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Richard A. Thompson *et al.*

Application No.: 09/854197

Filed: May 11, 2001

For: A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR THE  
CONFIGURATION, REPAIR AND  
PROTECTION OF VIRTUAL RING  
NETWORKS

Confirmation No.: 7928

Art Unit: 2661

Examiner: R. M. Pizarro

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**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated October 28, 2004 (Paper No. 4), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

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**FAX TRANSMISSION****DATE:** January 4, 2005**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 09/854197-Conf. #7928  
Patent Number**Inventor:** Richard A. THOMPSON et al.**MESSAGE TO:** US Patent and Trademark Office**FAX NUMBER:** (703) 872-9306**FROM:** LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

Kevin J. Canning

**PHONE:** (617) 227-7400**Attorney Dkt. #:** SYCS-005**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** 10**CONTENTS:** Amendment (6 pages)  
Amendment Transmittal plus duplicate (2 pages)  
Certificate of Transmission (1 page)

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Application No. (if known): 09/854197

Attorney Docket No.: SYCS-005

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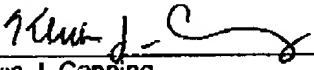

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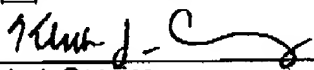
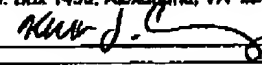
Amendment (6 pages)

Amendment Transmittal plus duplicate (2 pages)

<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER</b>				Docket No. SYCS-005	
Application No. 08/854197-Conf. #7928		Filing Date May 11, 2001		Examiner R. M. Pizarro	
Art Unit 2661					
Applicant(s): Richard A. THOMPSON et al.					
Invention: A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR THE CONFIGURATION, REPAIR AND PROTECTION OF VIRTUAL RING NETWORKS					
<b>TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS</b> Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>					
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate	
Total Claims	14	- 20 =		x	
Independent Claims	2	- 3 =		x	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					
Other fee (please specify):					
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:</b>					0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Entity</span>					
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.					
 Kevin J. Canning Attorney Reg. No.: 35,470  LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP 28 State Street Boston, Massachusetts 02109 (617) 227-7400				Dated: <u>January 4, 2005</u>	
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Total Claims	14	- 20 =		x	
Independent Claims	2	- 3 =		x	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					
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